more eaſily drawn off from any one part of the ſphere than from another, becauſe it is equally attracted by every part, But that is not the caſe with bodies of any other figure. From a cube it is more eaſily drawn at the corners than at the plane ſides, and ſo from the angles of a body of any other form, and ſtill moſt eaſily from the angle that is moſt acute. Thus if a body ſhaped as A, B, C, D, E, in Fig. 8, be electrified, or have an electrical atmoſphere communicated to it, and we conſider every ſide as a baſe on which the particles reſt and by which they are attracted, one may ſee, by imagining a line from A to F, and another from E to G, that the portion of the atmoſphere included in F, A, E, G, has the line A, E, for its baſis. So the portion of atmoſphere included in H, A, B, I, has the line A, B, for its baſis. And likewiſe the portion included in K, B, C, L, has B, C, to reſt on; and ſo on the other ſide of the figure. Now if you would draw off this atmoſphere with any blunt ſmooth body, and approach the middle of the ſide A, B, you muſt come very near before the force of your attracter exceeds the force or power with which that ſide holds its atmoſphere. But there is a ſmall portion between I, B, K, that has leſs of the ſurface to reſt on, and to be attracted by, than the neighbouring portions, while at the ſame time there is a mutual repulſion between its particles and the particles of thoſe portions, therefore here you can get it with more eaſe or at a greater diſtance. Between F, A, H, there is a larger portion that has yet a leſs ſurface to reſt on and to attract it; here therefore you can get it away ſtill more eaſily. But eaſieſt of all between L, C, M, where the quantity is largeſt, and the ſurface to attract and keep it back the leaſt. When you have drawn away one of theſe angular portions of the fluid, another ſucceeds in its place, from the nature of fluidity and the mutual repulſion beforementioned; and ſo the atmoſphere continues flowing off at ſuch angle, like a ſtream, till no more is remaining. The extremities of the portions of atmoſphere over theſe angular parts are likewiſe at a greater diſtance from the electrified body, as may be ſeen by the inſpection of the above figure; the point of the atmoſphere of the angle C, being much farther from C, than any other part of the atmoſphere over the lines C, B, or B, A: And beſides the diſtance ariſing from the nature of the figure, where the attraction is leſs, the particles will naturally expand to a greater diſtance by their mutual repulſion. On theſe accounts we ſuppoſe electrified bodies diſcharge their atmoſpheres upon unelectrified bodies more eaſily and at a greater diſtance from their angles and points than from their ſmooth ſides.— Thoſe points will alſo diſcharge into the air, when the body has too great an electrical atmoſphere, without bringing any non-electric near, to receive what is thrown off: For the air, though an electric *per ſe*, yet has always more or leſs water and other non-electric matters mixed with it; and theſe attract and receive what is ſo diſcharged.

17. But points have a property, by which they *draw on* as well as *throw off* the electrical fluid, at greater diſtances

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